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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

15 August 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Bernardino – Gang Sweep Results in More Than 40 Arrests

(U) San Bernardino police arrested more than 40 people and recovered several firearms in a gang sweep operation at multiple locations throughout the city. More than 80 officers from neighboring agencies including Rialto, Redlands, Fontana, Colton, Montclair, and Upland police departments and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Highland Station assisted with the San Bernardino Movement Against Street Hoodlums operation in response to increasing criminal gang activity in the city. Thirty felony arrests and 12 misdemeanor arrests were made during the sweep, police said. Officers recovered 16 firearms, three-ounces of methamphetamine, one-ounce of cocaine and a large amount of PCP. SOURCE: 13 August 2022, The Mercury News

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Man Sentenced to 18-Years in Prison for Three Smuggling Deaths

(U) Point Loma – The smuggler who was at the helm of an overloaded 40-foot vessel that capsized off Point Loma last year, causing three migrants to drown and sparking a chaotic rescue effort, was sentenced to 18-years in prison. Antonio Hurtado, 40, who had been living aboard the aging trawler-style boat, was illegally shuttling 32 migrants into the United States on the morning of 2 May 2021, when the vessel drifted onto the rocks below Cabrillo National Monument and broke apart. He pleaded guilty in April to felony charges of attempted human smuggling resulting in death and attempted human smuggling for financial gain.

SOURCE: 12 August 2022, The San Diego Union-Tribune

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia - Man Dies After Crashing Car, Firing Gunshots near US Capitol

(U) Washington DC – A Delaware man died in an apparent suicide early on Sunday after crashing his car into a barricade near the US Capitol and firing shots into the air. While the man was getting out of the crashed car, it became engulfed in flames. Police said the man then fired several gunshots into the air along East Capitol Street. As police responded and approached, the man shot himself. Police said the man was identified as Richard A. York III, 29. No one was else injured. The death is being investigated by the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, which did not immediately identity or any details of his motives.

SOURCE: 14 August 2022, Reuters

(U) Georgia – Man Who Threatened Bombing of NYC IRS Office Sentence in Federal Court

(U) St. Simons Islands – A Georgia man was sentenced to in federal court after he threatened to blow up an IRS office in New York. The Department of Justice said Benjamin Stasko, 34, of St. Simons Island, served 21-months in custody and now faces three-years of supervised release after he made the threats on the agency's website in 2020. Stasko posted that a pipe bomb had been planted in the Ted Weiss Federal Building in New York and threatened the IRS office inside.

SOURCE: 12 August 2022, Yahoo News

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(U) New York – Salman Rushdie Stabbing Suspect 'Had Contact With Iran's Revolutionary Guard'

(U) Chautauqua – The man accused of stabbing author Salman Rushdie had allegedly been in direct contact with members of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) on social media, European and Middle Eastern intelligence officials told media outlets. However, the investigation is ongoing, and it is unclear if Iran was involved with organizing the attack. Hadi Matar, 24, has been charged with attempted murder after Rushdie, 75, was repeatedly stabbed on stage ahead of a speaking event in Chautauqua, New York, on Friday.

SOURCE: 14 August 2022, VICE News

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico - US Embassy Issues Travel Alert for Guanajuato After Jalisco Cartel Violence

(U) Celaya – The United States Embassy has issued a travel alert for the state of Guanajuato in the wake of a wave of attacks perpetrated by the Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG). "Following numerous confirmed acts of violence on 9 August, including arson of buildings and vehicles, US citizens are reminded to reconsider travel to Guanajuato state due to crime," the alert issued Wednesday said. The publication of the embassy alert came a day after the CJNG went on a rampage in Jalisco and Guanajuato Tuesday evening in response to a military operation that was reported to have resulted in the arrest of criminal suspects, including Ricardo Ruiz Velasco, an alleged CJNG leader in western Mexico and the Bajío region.

SOURCE: 11 August 2022, Mexico News Daily

(U) Syria – Israeli Strikes Hit Iranian Targets Near Russia's Mediterranean Bases

(U) Abu Afsa – Israel hit Iranian targets in a series of strikes near the ancestral home region of Syrian President Bashar al Assad, and close to Russia's main Syrian bases on the Mediterranean coast. The Syrian army earlier said three servicemen were killed and three were wounded in two simultaneous Israeli attacks south of the province of Tartous, and another on the capital of Damascus. It gave no details of the specific locations. The strikes on the northeastern outskirts of Damascus hit outposts run by Lebanon's pro-Iranian Hezbollah group. Israel has staged hundreds of strikes against alleged Iranian targets in recent years, but has mostly avoided hitting the coastal provinces where Russia's main military assets are concentrated.

SOURCE: 14 August 2022, Reuters

(U) Syria – US Reports Drone Attack Targeted Its Syrian Base, No Casualties

(U) Al-Tanf – A drone attack hit a compound run by US troops and US-backed Syrian opposition fighters in eastern Syria on Monday, with no casualties. "Operation Inherent Resolve forces, in coordination with our Maghaweir al-Thowra partners, responded to an attack by multiple unmanned aerial systems in the vicinity of Al-Tanf Garrison," the US military said in a statement. US and coalition troops are based at Al-Tanf to train Syrian forces to counter Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) militants. The attack took place at the base near where the borders of Syria, Jordan, and Iraq meet. There was no claim of responsibility for the attack.

SOURCE: 15 August 2022, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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